

**From:** Hubbard, Joseph  
**Sent:** Monday, July 07, 2014 8:31 AM  
**To:** R6 Daily News MailList  
**Subject:** Daily News Digest, Monday, July 7  
**Attachments:** Daily News Digest 07072014.pdf

**1 – Study Shows How Drilling Wastewater Causes Quakes, New York Times, 7/3/14**

[http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2014/07/03/science/ap-us-sci-drilling-quakes.html?src=me&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2014/07/03/science/ap-us-sci-drilling-quakes.html?src=me&_r=0)

A new study explains how just four wells forcing massive amounts of drilling wastewater into the ground are probably shaking up Oklahoma. Those wells seem to have triggered more than 100 small-to-medium earthquakes in the past five years, according to a study published Thursday by the journal Science.

**2 – Forecaster keeps an eye on the sun, Abq Journal, 7/6/14**

<http://www.abqjournal.com/425621/news/fire.html>

No one understands that Bruce Springsteen song more than William Murtagh. In a small government office near the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, Murtagh and other federal employees monitor the sun 24 hours a day, waiting for it to erupt and fling a cloud of superheated, supercharged gas toward Earth. The Space Weather Prediction Center in Boulder, Colo., sends alerts to power grids, airlines, oil drillers and even pigeon trainers on the risks of geomagnetic storms that can disrupt communications, electric power, and, yes, perhaps the birds' sense of direction.

**3 – Report: Residents near fracking site in Pennsylvania offered \$50,000 to release drilling company from liability**

**, Times Picayune, 7/5/14**

[http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/07/report\\_residents\\_near\\_fraking.html](http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/07/report_residents_near_fraking.html)

With fracking generating controversy in Pennsylvania, a gas company in one section of the state is taking an unusual step to quell concerns of opponents who fear the controversial practice will create environmental and health problems - offering residents cash in exchange for a hold harmless agreement, according to ProPublica. In Washington County, near Pittsburgh, EQT Corporation offered households near the site where it is drilling about a dozen new wells \$50,000 each if they agree to release the company from any legal liability, for current operations as well as those to be carried out in the future.

**4 – Scientists struggle to figure out why ground is shaking in heartland, Star-Telgram, 7/5/14**

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/07/03/5947915/scientists-struggle-to-figure.html>

Months after the prairie began to shake, scientists still struggle to explain a surge in Kansas earthquakes that appears connected to increased fracking. The Kansas quakes are part of a major escalation in earthquakes that have struck the nation's heartland in the wake of the oil and gas boom. The epidemic has hit places in Texas and especially Oklahoma where earthquakes used to almost never happen, with scientists increasingly pointing the finger at deep underground injection of drilling waste that effectively lubricates and weakens fault lines.

**5 – Louisianians should understand Alaskan environmental issue, Baton Rouge Advocate, 7/6/2014**

<http://theadvocate.com/news/opinion/9604551-123/letter-louisianians-should-understand-alaskan>

Louisiana, fishing is a way of life that goes far beyond simply being the "Sportsman's Paradise." This is certainly true for me and my family, as we've been fishing in south Louisiana for 275 years. I'd like to think that I

continue this through my current work with “The Outdoor Kitchen Show;” indeed, my favorite shows are the ones when I get to fish — and cook — with fishing guides off the coast and along the bayous.

**6 – Wastewater disposal tied to surge in Oklahoma earthquakes, News Star 7/3/14**

<http://www.thenewsstar.com/usatoday/article/12151637>

In 2014, it was not California that had the highest number of earthquakes over the magnitude of 3. It was Oklahoma. Researchers say the rise in earthquakes may be a byproduct of wastewater disposal from oil and gas drilling operations. A study released Thursday in the journal Science found that the injection of subsurface wastewater from these operations into disposal wells is linked to the dramatic rise of earthquakes in central Oklahoma since 2009.

**7 – EPA Aims To Limit Briefing In Remaining CSAPR Suits, Inside EPA, 7/3/2014**

<http://insideepa.com/201407032476104/EPA-Blog/News-Briefs/epa-aims-to-limit-briefing-in-remaining-csapr-suits/menu-id-97.html?s=dn>

EPA is asking the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to limit the scope of future briefing in remaining legal challenges to the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) air trading program, saying the legal claims were extensively raised in briefing ahead of the D.C. Circuit's since-overturned ruling scrapping CSAPR.

**8 – (VIDEO) Truck owners blow extra smoke to anger environmentalists, Austin 360, 7/7/2014**

<http://www.austin360.com/news/news/national/truck-owners-blow-extra-smoke-anger-environmentali/ngZnt/>

It's a trend now big enough to put a name to. Many Americans are rigging their trucks to intentionally emit large plumes of toxic smoke. It's called "rolling coal," and it's meant as a political statement. The truck owner rigs the diesel engine to emit large amounts of black soot. One truck owner labeled his vehicle "Prius repellant" and took a video as he aimed smoke at a car behind him.

**9 - Landrieu showcases gavel in La. field hearing, EE News, 7/7/2014**

<http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/2014/07/07/stories/1060002382>

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chairwoman Mary Landrieu continues her election-year push today for more offshore energy production in her home state with a field hearing in Lafayette, La., on drilling on the outer continental shelf. Along with industry witnesses, including a representative from Royal Dutch Shell PLC's U.S. arm, the Louisiana Democrat will highlight the opportunities for more oil and gas production offshore and the jobs that could be created through increased production.

**10 – (OPED) Federal government email from the inside, Star-telegram, 7/6/2014**

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/07/05/5949203/federal-government-email-from.html?rh=1>

Since senior federal official Lois Lerner and I served together in the Bush Administration, surely she must have received the same sort of regular briefings about using the government's email system as I did. She worked over at the IRS and I was at the EPA. I suppose there was the possibility that the two agencies were governed by different policies — but I seriously doubt it.

**11 - Fracking interests are big donors to Texas regulators, Dallas Morning News, 7/4/2014**

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/headlines/20140704-fracking-interests-are-big-donors-to-texas-regulators.ece>

Two members of the state panel that regulates oil and natural gas drilling received more than \$70,000 in campaign contributions from individuals and political action committees associated with injection well operators near Azle, the Fort Worth suburb rattled by earthquakes that scientists say could be caused by such wells.

**12 - Texas confirms first West Nile case of the season, Odessa American, 7/3/2014**

[http://www.oaoa.com/people/health/article\\_3afae484-02e7-11e4-8b38-001a4bcf6878.html](http://www.oaoa.com/people/health/article_3afae484-02e7-11e4-8b38-001a4bcf6878.html)

The Texas Department of State Health Services today confirmed the state's first case of West Nile illness of the season. DSHS is urging people to take precautions to reduce the risk of contracting West Nile virus, a mosquito-borne illness.